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5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
6 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
7 AT SEATTLE

8 WILLIAM GILBERTO RAMOS,)
9 Petitioner,) CASE NO. C18-0180RSM
10 v.) ORDER REFERRING MATTER TO PRO
11 IRMA YOLANDA LOPEZ,) BONO SCREENING PANEL
12 Respondent.)
13 _____)
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15 This matter comes before the Court on Respondent's request for pro bono counsel, which
16 request she made orally before the Court on May 8, 2018. Respondent states that she has
17 contacted numerous attorneys about this case, but that they have declined to represent her on the
18 basis that it involves the Hague Convention, with which they are unfamiliar. Respondent
19 contacted the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project who is unable to represent her, but provided
20 her with a list of attorneys that may be able to represent her. To date, she has been unable to find
21 counsel.
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23 This District has adopted a plan for the representation of *pro se* plaintiffs in civil rights
24 actions. *General Order 10-05*. The Court believes the appointment of counsel will serve the
25 interests of justice. Accordingly, the Court refers Plaintiff's motion to appoint counsel to the
26 Nonprisoner Civil Rights Case Screening Committee ("Screening Committee") for review and a
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1 recommendation as to whether the Court should appoint counsel. The Clerk SHALL provide a
2 copy of all briefing in this matter to the Screening panel, along with the motion.

3 The Court requests that the Screening Committee expedite its consideration of this matter
4 given that an evidentiary hearing is currently scheduled for June 14, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

5 DATED this 8 day of May, 2018.
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9 RICARDO S. MARTINEZ
10 CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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